

BILL NO. 93-56

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

AS AMENDED

BILL NO. 93-56 (as amended)

Introduced by Council President Wilson and Council Member Wagner
Legislative Day No. 93-21 Date August 10, 1993

AN ACT to petition the Harford County Delegation to the General Assembly, the Governor, and the General Assembly to enact State legislation providing that Harford County deputy sheriffs, with certain exceptions, can be dismissed or demoted only for cause once their probationary period has expired.

By the Council, August 10, 1993

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled
on: September 8, 1993 at C.M. Wright High School
at: 6:00 p.m.

By Order: James D. Varnay, Acting Secretary

PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on September 8, 1993, and concluded on, September 8, 1993

James D. Varnay
Acting Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

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1 WHEREAS, The deputies of the Harford County Sheriff's Office
2 serve at the pleasure of the Sheriff, and therefore as a matter of
3 law could be dismissed or demoted without cause; and

4 WHEREAS, The County Council believes that this fact undermines
5 the deputies' sense of job ~~security, even given the fact that the~~
6 ~~current Sheriff and his predecessors have rarely dismissed or~~
7 ~~demoted personnel without cause,~~ security; and

8 WHEREAS, This situation is unfair to both deputies and the
9 citizens they protect, and could be eliminated by changing state
10 law to provide that deputies can be dismissed or demoted only for
11 cause; and

12 WHEREAS, Changing the law to provide that deputies could be
13 dismissed only for cause would create an improved working
14 environment for law enforcement officers in Harford County,
15 regardless of whether the Sheriff's Office continues to remain the
16 chief law enforcement agency in the County or whether a County
17 police department is created; and

18 WHEREAS, Only the General Assembly of Maryland has the power
19 to enact legislation providing that Harford County deputies can be
20 dismissed or demoted only for cause once they have completed their
21 probationary period;

22 NOW, THEREFORE,

23 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford
24 County, Maryland, that Harford County hereby petitions the Harford
25 County Delegation to the General Assembly, the Governor of the
26 State of Maryland, the President of the Senate of Maryland, and the
27 Speaker of the House of Delegates of Maryland, as follows:

1 A. That the Harford County delegation sponsor, the General
2 Assembly enact, and the Governor sign legislation providing that
3 ~~Harford County deputy sheriffs~~ all employees of the Harford County
4 Sheriff's Office who have completed their required probationary
5 period can be dismissed or demoted only for cause.

6 B. That excluded from this provision be the positions of
7 Chief Deputy, Major, and Warden, who shall continue to serve at the
8 pleasure of the Sheriff.

9 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, that this Act shall
10 take effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

11 EFFECTIVE: December 27, 1993
12
13
14

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 93-56 (as amended)

(Brief Title) Sheriff's Office - Petition to Create Merit System

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

James D. Vannoy
Acting Secretary
of the Council

Date October 14, 1993

ENROLLED

[Signature]
President of the Council

Date October 14, 1993

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

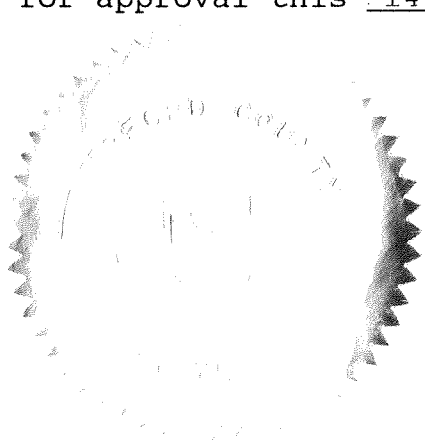
Passed: LSD 93-26 (October 12, 1993)

Failed of Passage: _____

By Order

James D. Vannoy
Acting Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 14th day of October, 1993 at 3:00 p. m.



James D. Vannoy
Acting Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

William M. Lehman
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date October 27, 1993

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 93-56, as amended), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on October 27, 1993.

James D. Vannoy
Acting Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 27, 1993